

Seattle 100-10186

released 10-6-99

111 pp

Ashley E Holden

508 U. S. Court House
Seattle, Washington

May 12, 1942

117 pp

532-10-6300

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: **ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN;**
SPOKANE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Dear Sir:

ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN is and has been for approximately the last five years the political editor of the Spokane Spokesman-Review which is published daily in the city of Spokane, Washington and which enjoys a circulation throughout eastern Washington.

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Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] at Seattle entitled [redacted] with aliases, Internal Security - J, Alien Enemy Control, Registration Act" dated January 14, 1942, Seattle file 100-2606. Page 20 of the aforementioned report recites an interview with **ASHLEY HOLDEN** by Special Agent [redacted]. It will be noted that at [redacted] subject [redacted] had approached him at Olympia, Washington during the last session of the Washington state legislature and asked him to secure a copy of a proposed bill which was then in the legislature to regulate beauty parlors, which bill excluded Japanese, and that [redacted] had stated he was desirous of securing a copy of this bill for the Japanese consul at Seattle; also, that Mr. **HOLDEN** stated that subject [redacted] had indicated to him he was representing the Japanese consul under some sort of a financial arrangement.

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HOLDEN was subpoenaed as a witness in the [redacted] trial which is now being conducted in the United States District Court at Seattle, Washington. The trial began on May 5, 1942, but on May 4 **HOLDEN** was interviewed at the office of the United States Attorney by Assistant United States Attorney **GERALD D. HILL** and Special Agent [redacted]. At that time **HOLDEN** declared that he did not know when the subject [redacted] was representing at Olympia, Washington, although he was well aware that he was representing some principal. **HOLDEN** was specifically asked if the subject [redacted] represented either the Japanese consul at Seattle or the Seattle Japanese Association, and his reply was in the negative to both questions. He insisted that he knew [redacted] was representing someone because there was no occasion for his being in Olympia on personal business.

DECLASSIFIED BY **SP2ALM/JG**
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Log # 99-9

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
MAY 26 1942
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
FILE

Director

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May 12, 1942

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and secondly because [redacted] was securing extra copies of bills, and that such extra copies numbered more than one individual could personally use. In view of these statements, Assistant United States Attorney HILE excused HOLDEN from further participation in the trial. This interview occurred at approximately 2:00 p.m. on May 4, 1942.

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Further reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] at Seattle dated February 3, 1942 entitled [redacted] with aliases" and having the same character as the report referred to above. In the report of February 3, 1942 Special Agent [redacted] set forth an interview with [redacted] of Seattle, Washington on page 10. At approximately 5:00 p.m. on May 4, 1942 [redacted] telephonically advised Special Agent [redacted] that he had just been visited at his Seattle office by ASHLEY HOLDEN, whom he had known for a number of years. He declared that HOLDEN had informed him that he was making a mistake in appearing in the [redacted] trial as a witness for the United States government. HOLDEN declared further that [redacted] was an innocent man and that he had long been a friend of his. As a result of his convictions, HOLDEN stated that he had voluntarily gone to the office of the defense counsel, after having been interviewed by the Department of Justice, in order to offer his services in any way that he might for the defense. He urged [redacted] to do likewise.

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[redacted] declined, whereupon HOLDEN referred to the Department of Justice generally, and included specifically the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as a "bunch of sons of and". [redacted] declared he was well acquainted with Assistant United States Attorney HILE and had many contacts with Special Agent [redacted], and that he felt that at least those two individuals should be excepted from HOLDEN's general classification. HOLDEN declined to make any such distinction, and stated that among other things one of his reasons for so describing the Department of Justice was the fact that when he had received his expense money on his subpoena (#47) he had noticed that the government's check had been signed by [redacted] a United States Marshal at Seattle. HOLDEN related that [redacted] had been [redacted] of an I.W.W. labor paper in Seattle in 1919 which had been suppressed by the United States government after HOLDEN had actively campaigned for such suppression. HOLDEN declared to [redacted] character was the usual type to be found in the Justice Department.

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On May 7, 1942 [redacted] appeared as a witness in the trial, and his testimony so closely follows the results of the interview with him set forth in the report referring to him above that there is no need to

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May 13, 1942

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comment on it further here. It will be noted, however, that between May 5 and May 7 [redacted] received approximately fifty telephone calls from [redacted] and social acquaintances urging him not to testify for the government but to volunteer his services to the defense.

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At approximately 7:00 p.m. on May 7, 1942 [redacted] telephonically advised Special Agent [redacted] that HOLDEN had called [redacted] and had declared to him that everything the government had presented in the way of fact concerning [redacted] representation of the Japanese consulate was true, and that he knew of his own knowledge that it was true. He declared to [redacted] that he had been well aware of [redacted] lobbying activities for the Japanese consulate before the Washington state legislature at Olympia, Washington, but that "all hell would freeze over before I would so testify in behalf of the Justice Department". It will be noted at this point that the government's case had been practically completed at this time, and that the witnesses, in line with the reports of Special Agent [redacted] in this case, had testified without deviation from the interviews with Special Agent [redacted] except to make their statements more clear and more damaging to the defendant insofar as representation of the Japanese consulate was concerned.

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On May 8, 1942 HOLDEN appeared in the trial as a witness for the defendant [redacted]. On direct examination HOLDEN under oath stated the following facts: That he had been well acquainted with the defendant [redacted] when the latter was in Olympia, Washington, apparently doing a little lobbying; that he had asked the defendant [redacted] whom he represented and that [redacted] had told him he represented the Japanese Association of Seattle; that he had asked the defendant [redacted] if he represented the Japanese consul, and that [redacted] had denied he represented the Japanese consul; that he was one of the founders of the Japan Society of Seattle and had been its paid secretary for three years; that he had been presented gifts in cash by the Japanese consul on numerous occasions, and that as late as 1940 he received a gift of \$50 at Christmas time from the Japanese consul. It will be noted at this point that the defense is contending that the monies which [redacted] received, according to his ledger set, for services rendered to the consul, were not so received but rather were gifts.

On cross-examination, which was conducted by Assistant United States Attorney ALLEN POMEROY, HOLDEN admitted that he had been known in Seattle as "BANZAI" HOLDEN, and that BANZAI was a Japanese cheer which might be translated as "long live the Emperor"; that he had made a trip to Japan in 1931 at the expense of the Japan Society of Seattle, among

Director

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May 12, 1942

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others; that he had published an English language periodical with a Japanese outlook entitled "Oriental Outlook" in 1932 or 1933; that he had employed the defendant [redacted] as secretary to him when he was executive secretary of the Japan Society of Seattle; that the membership of the Japan Society of Seattle was approximately one-third Japanese, and that the Japanese consul residing in Seattle had always been a prominent officer in the organization. In addition to the above statements on cross-examination, HOLDEN admitted that he had been interviewed by Special Agent [redacted] at Spokane on January 10, 1942, but denied affirmatively and vehemently that he had ever informed [redacted] that he thought that [redacted] represented the Japanese consul.

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Seattle newspapermen present at the trial advised Special Agent [redacted] and Assistant United States Attorney HIE that HOLDEN was an active reactionary Republican who had led the America First Committee in its campaigns in eastern Washington, and that in connection with this work he had made a lecture tour of the state of Washington at his own expense. Special Agent [redacted] of Seattle has advised that while he was in Spokane as a resident agent and on occasions, HOLDEN had written editorials in the Spokesman-Review, the substance of which was that the F.B.I. was an organization which made a good case every two or five years and then rested on its laurels.

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above facts, and has stated to Special Agent [redacted] that HOLDEN's actions and words have aggravated him and that he is considering prosecution of HOLDEN either for perjury or for violation of the Registration Act. In this connection, it will be noted that [redacted] has been of assistance to the Seattle Field Division in the past six months, and that the information he furnished has been furnished confidentially, and accordingly his confidences will be kept. It will be further noted that defense counsel [redacted] admitted in a recess following HOLDEN's testimony that he had never thought of calling HOLDEN as a witness and was unaware that he had any connection with the case until HOLDEN voluntarily appeared in his office and offered his services as a defense witness on May 4, 1942.

Very truly yours,

H. B. FLETCHER
Special Agent in Charge

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BSG:kl
AMASD

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

97-1344

May 28, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
Seattle, Washington

Re: Ashley Elder Holden
Perjury

Dear Sir:

Information submitted in your letter of May 12, 1942, concerning this individual's activities has been carefully reviewed. I feel that this matter should be very carefully and completely investigated, and an effort made to secure evidence of a perjury violation on the part of Holden. Consideration should also be given to the possibility that he has been guilty of subornation of perjury in attempting to persuade [redacted] and others to change their testimony. It is desired that the persons who called [redacted] urging that he not testify for the government be identified and interviewed. Statements should be taken from them regarding their reasons for calling him and specific inquiries should be made to find out whether Holden was in any way responsible for their contact with [redacted].

b7c I want to be immediately advised whether Special Agent [redacted] notes, prepared at the time he talked to Holden, are still contained in the Seattle file and to know whether they might be of value in corroborating his testimony regarding the statements made to him by Holden. If you are dependent on [redacted] as an informant and do not desire to uncover him, you are free to exercise your own judgment in the matter. However, if you are willing to uncover the informant, you are to press this matter vigorously.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

MAY 30 1942

SEATTLE WASHINGTON

FILE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
June 26, 1942

97-1344

Special Agent in Charge
Seattle, Washington

Re: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
PERJURY

Dear Sir:

It is desired that you advise the Bureau what action has been taken and what action is contemplated in connection with the Bureau's letter of May 28, 1942, captioned as above.

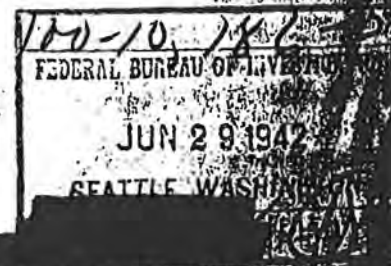
Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director



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Log# 99-9

Adv. Bureau
b7c



407 U. S. Court House
Seattle, Washington

July 6, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
PERJURY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letters dated May 28 and June 26, 1942 on the captioned individual.

b7C [redacted] who would be the most desirable witness in the event of an indictment charging HOLDEN with perjury, I do not feel should be used by this office in such a capacity. As I indicated in my letter of May 12, 1942 [redacted] furnished the therein contained information to Special Agent [redacted] in confidence. Of great weight, however, is the fact that [redacted] has

b7D [redacted] been and is being and will be used by this office as a source of information concerning other subversive activities particularly regarding the Communist Party program in the Washington State Legislature. An examination of the records of [redacted] in this connection by Special Agent [redacted] of this office reflects that [redacted] is in possession of information concerning some of the Communist Party inspired candidates for public office in the State of Washington, which is not obtainable from any other source.

b7D b7C In view of the fact that the use of [redacted] as a witness in a case against HOLDEN would be against [redacted] wishes and might deprive this office of his other services, I am not [redacted] the possibility of this witness any further.

b7D b7C The Bureau's letter of May 28, 1942 further requested that inquiry be made if possible into the reasons for the telephone calls made to [redacted] attempting to persuade him not to testify in the [redacted] case. [redacted] also reluctant to furnish the names of these individuals for the reason that, as in the HOLDEN case, he wishes to stay behind the scene. He has indicated, however, that these calls came from persons who had close connections with the defendant in that case or persons closely affiliated with [redacted] defense counsel. It will be noted that [redacted] was defended by [redacted] attorney in this city who is reputed to have represented the IWW and presently represents many labor unions in Seattle. [redacted] was also represented by [redacted]

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July 6, 1942

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who is reputed to have considerable influence in the Seattle Bar and who, it will be noted, has been an officer of the Seattle Bar Association for quite sometime. Presently [REDACTED] of the Washington State Bar Association and [REDACTED] the Spokane Bar Association.

With reference to Special Agent [REDACTED] notes on HOLDEN taken on January 10, 1942, please be advised that these have been retained and are presently part of the Seattle File on [REDACTED]

The Seattle Field Division is presently conducting investigation concerning HOLDEN's past activities in Seattle and in Spokane. As soon as sufficient information is gathered, a report will be submitted on this individual.

Very truly yours,

H. B. FLETCHER
Special Agent in Charge

BSO:fvb
100-10186
cc - 100-2606

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Origin SEATTLE		File No. 100-3890	
Report Made At Seattle, Washington	Date Made 7/3/42	Period 4/7; 6/22, 23, 26, 29, 30; 7/1/42	Report Made By [REDACTED] b7c kl
Title JAPAN SOCIETY OF SEATTLE; THE AUXILIARY TO THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF SEATTLE			Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - J
<p>Synopsis of Facts: Japan Society of Seattle organized by [REDACTED] b7c at instigation of then Consul HIROISHI SAITO in 1923, incorporated in the state of Washington in 1929. Purpose of Society was to promote friendly relations between U. S. and Japan and to diffuse among the American people a more accurate knowledge of the people of Japan." Towards this end Society sponsored dinners to visiting Japanese dignitaries, students and also sponsored art exhibits, scholarships and essay contest on Japanese topics. Society in past in a non-public manner fought the Exclusion Act of 1924 and spread some Japanese propaganda. ASHLEY E. HOLDEN, presently a subject of investigation by the Seattle Field Division, was the leader in the latter work. Society's membership was one-third Japanese, being treaty merchants, prominent resident aliens and members of the consulate staff. Remaining two-third membership were white U. S. citizens prominent in export-import, banking, legal, educational and social circles in Seattle. Auxiliary composed of women interested in Society's aims and was formed as a sub-division of the Society in September 1935. Only qualification for membership in either branch was sympathy with purpose of organization as described above. In December 1941 the Executive Committee of the Society voted to accept the resignations</p>			
App. & Fwd.		SAC	
		Do Not Write in These Spaces	
		100-10186-5	
Copies:		ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/13/98 BY SP2 ALM/JG Log # 99-9	
5 - Bureau 1 - ONI, Seattle 2 - G 2, Seattle 1 - San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, San Diego, New York City, Boston, New Orleans, Chicago		5 - Seattle (1 - Seattle file 100-10186) [REDACTED] b7c	

of all Japanese alien members (which had not previously been submitted by the individuals), suspend operations for the duration and invest the remaining funds of the Society in U. S. war bonds. Brief chronological history of Society, including relationship with Societies in other cities in the U. S., England and Japan, set forth as obtained from a review of the Society's records. Membership list, library index and by-laws of organization obtained and placed in file of Seattle Field Division. [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] prominent within Society, were interviewed but could provide no information additional to that found in the records or set forth above. Such affiliation with other Societies as ascertained set forth.

- C -

Reference:

Bureau letter to Seattle dated June 8, 1942.
(Bureau file 100-74277).

Details:

Investigation in instant case is predicated upon the reference letter and also upon numerous letters addressed to the Bureau, to the Seattle Field Division, and of carbon copies of letters addressed to numerous governmental agencies by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington, [REDACTED], in letters to this organization, as well as the Department of State, Department of Interior and Offices of Naval and Military Intelligence and the Seattle press, has long contended that the Japan Society of Seattle is either wittingly or unwittingly an agency of the Japanese government for the purpose of propaganda and assistance in espionage. b7

On April 7, 1942 the writer personally interviewed [REDACTED] at his residence and examined the numerous documentary pieces of evidence which [REDACTED] has referred to in his correspondence as proof of his allegations concerning the subject organization. b7

In an interview which lasted nearly four hours, the writer ascertained that [REDACTED] had no specific information which would be proof of his allegations. [REDACTED] files consist of numerous newspaper clippings from Seattle papers and from [REDACTED] publications

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in the lumber, fish and boat industries dating from 1907 to 1925, all concerning Japanese infiltration into the west coast areas and industries therein. [REDACTED] does not possess any information other than these clippings (many of which [REDACTED], and none of which are more recent than 1925, except for a copy of the membership list of the subject organization in Seattle for the year 1940. An examination of [REDACTED] clippings revealed that [REDACTED] engaged in the political controversy concerning Japanese immigration to the United States, and his contention that he has been the chief adversary of Japanese immigration appears to be supported by his files. The files further reflect that members of the Japan Society have been his staunchest adversaries during the period which the files cover.

b7C
Following the interviews with [REDACTED] the details of which will be set forth later in this report, the writer was permitted by these three gentlemen, who are prominent in the Society, to examine the complete records of the subject organization. These records are presently in a vault sealed in the Pacific National Bank, Second and Marion, Seattle, Washington.

[REDACTED]
assured the writer that the records would not be again disturbed until the end of hostilities between Japan and the United States.

The Seattle Field Division has in its files from the aforementioned records a copy of the certificate of organization of the Japan Society of Seattle. This certificate contains the by-laws of the Society, and from them the following information has been extracted.

Purpose of the Organization

"The purpose of the Society is to promote friendly relations between the United States and Japan and to diffuse among the American people a more accurate knowledge of the people of Japan, their aims, ideals, arts, sciences, industries and economic conditions. All persons in sympathy with this object may become members of the society."

Types of Membership

(A) Resident members -- "Are those who live in or do business in or within fifty miles of the city of Seattle. The initiation fee for this type of membership is \$15 and dues are \$12 per year."

(B) Non-resident members -- "Are those who do not live in or do business within fifty miles of the city of Seattle. There was no initiation fee for these members and their dues were \$5 per year". (It will be noted that most of these members resided within the state of Washington.)

(C) Life members -- "Are those who shall pay \$200 upon election to membership and shall pay no further fees."

(D) Honorary members -- "Are those elected by unanimous vote of the trustees. They shall pay no dues and shall have all the privileges of the Society excepting that of holding office."

(E) Patrons -- "Are those persons who have contributed \$1,000 or more to the Society at one time." (The records of the Society fail to reflect that it had any patrons.)

Offices

(A) "The offices shall be a president, four vice presidents, a secretary and a treasurer, who together with eight other members known as trustees shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Society." The offices were elected annually by ballot at the January annual meeting of the Society.

(B) The total number of trustees shall be 25, including the officers. The trustees held office for three years. The duties of the officers were those usual to the duties of any elected group of corporate officials.

Committees

(A) The Financial Committee consisted of three members, and its duties were to pass on the expenditures and investments of the organization, as well as to prepare a budget for the Society in cooperation with its treasurer.

(B) The Membership Committee consisted of three members who assisted the secretary in all matters relating to application for membership and who solicited members.

(C) The Publication and Information Committee consisted of three members who assisted in the publication of the Society's monthly bulletin and in the publication of information of interest to the Society or to the public concerning the Society's activities.

(D) The Committee on Entertainment, Literature and Art was not described in the by-laws, although the same provided for such a committee. However, the records of the Society reflected that at various times committees were appointed for the purpose of conducting lectures, debates, essay contests, various art exhibits and also for the entertainment, reception and touring of visiting dignitaries and students from Japan.

All of the above committees were appointed from the membership of the Executive Committee.

Meetings of the Society

The by-laws provided that the Society should hold an annual meeting on the third Wednesday in January of each year, or at a date close to, and that this should be a general meeting of the entire membership of the Society. It was also provided by the by-laws that such meetings of the Society could be called at any time by two weeks written notice to the membership by the Executive Committee. The records of the organization reflect that there were no general meetings of the Society at any time since its organization in 1923 excepting the general meeting in January of each year which was the occasion of an annual formal dinner. The Executive Committee of the organization met fortnightly at some Seattle hotel or club. The by-laws further provided for the usual order of business at the respective types of meetings.

Elections and Membership

The by-laws provided that an applicant for membership must be proposed by one member and seconded by another. Following such nomination the member was voted upon by the Executive Committee. One black ball in five defeated the candidate, and if he were twice rejected his name could not then be submitted again. The records of the organization failed to reflect that any applicant for membership was ever rejected.

The by-laws further provided that the Executive Committee could cancel for cause the election of any member by giving him a two weeks written notice and an opportunity to be heard. The records do not reflect that any member was so ejected from the Society. A member could also be dropped because of a three months delinquency in payment of dues.

It will be noted here that the writer obtained an official copy of the membership list of this organization for the year 1941. Inasmuch as there was no annual meeting in 1942, this is the last official membership list.

A review of the membership list referred to above reflects that in 1941 the Society had a total of 143 members, of whom 33 were members of the Japanese race. An examination of this membership list reflects that the Japanese members with but few exceptions were treaty merchants in the United States as managers of prominent Japanese international business houses such as the Mitsubishi, Mitsui, NYK Steamship

Lines, OSK Steamship Lines, Yokohama and Sumitomo Specie Banks. The remaining members were white citizens of the United States, who for the most part were affiliated with the Japanese in promotion of international trade. The more prominent members, such as [REDACTED] had been elected directors of the two Japanese banks and were attorneys for most of the Japanese firms. The other white members were connected with railroads, steamship lines, insurance companies, timber companies, export and import companies of all types, members of port authorities, banks having international branches and communication companies having international branches. b7c

An amendment was made to the by-laws set forth in brief above in 1934 which provided for Firm Memberships. At this latter date the Society was not in good financial condition, and in order to promote memberships an amendment was made providing that a firm might take out a membership at the reduced rate of \$10 per year for one representative, \$9 a year for two representatives, \$8 a year for three representatives and \$7 a year for five or more memberships in the Society. The holders of these Firm Memberships as of December 1, 1941 were as follows:

The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Co.
Douglas Fir Export Company.
Great Northern Railway Company.
Imperial Japanese Consulate.
Metropolitan Building Company.
National Bank of Commerce.
Northern Pacific Railway Company.
Union Pacific System.
Yamashita Shipping Company.

Prior to this date Firm Memberships had been held by the Yokohama Specie Bank, the Sumitomo Specie Bank, Mitsubishi and Company, Mitsui Company, NYK Steamship Lines and other Japanese firms.

Other members of the Society outside of the classes set forth above were prominent professors in the Far Eastern Department of the University of Washington, such as [REDACTED] who is the subject of Seattle file 100-8021. b7c

Prominent Japanese subjects of investigation by the Seattle Field Division who do not fall within the above general classifications were [REDACTED] subject of Seattle file 65-1531, [REDACTED] subject of Seattle file 100-1898, and [REDACTED] subject of Seattle file 100-2606.

[REDACTED] at Seattle, was apprehended December 8, 1941 and was subsequently ordered interned by the Attorney General. [REDACTED] was apprehended December 8, 1941, and although

his internment was strongly recommended by the United States Attorney and the hearing board at Seattle, Washington, he is presently on parole under orders of the Attorney General at Spokane, Washington. [REDACTED] subject of Seattle file 100-2606, was apprehended December 8, 1941, and being a United States citizen was tried and acquitted May 13, 1942 on the charge of violation of the Registration Act of 1917. He is presently in the evacuee camp at Puyallup, Washington. b7c

Nothing in the records or by-laws of the Seattle Japan Society reflects that this organization was officially connected with any of the other Japan Societies in existence. However, the Seattle Japan Society in its records claimed the credit of having organized the Japan Society in Portland, Oregon and in Vancouver, B. C.

In 1935 when [REDACTED] of Seattle was president the Society made an effort to organize all of the Japan Societies into an international organization. This movement, according to the records, originated with [REDACTED] and from the correspondence in the files the following information was obtained concerning other Japan Societies. It will again be noted that this information is all secured from letters dated in the spring of 1935, and since there is no more recent information its present value cannot be definitely ascertained.

At Boston, Massachusetts b7c

The Japan Society of Boston, Massachusetts was located at 44 School Street. Its officers at that time were [REDACTED] president; [REDACTED] treasurer, and [REDACTED] secretary. The organization in Boston was formed in 1920, and [REDACTED] in a letter to [REDACTED] stated that there were few Japanese business houses in Boston; that the Society in Boston was purely a cultural group, and that it did not desire to affiliate with other Japan Societies because it felt that its interests were scholarly rather than commercial.

At New York, N. Y.

The Japan Society of New York was founded in 1907 and incorporated in 1913. Its secretary was [REDACTED] who at that time resided at [REDACTED] New York. The offices of the organization were located at 36 W. 44th Street, New York City. This Society maintained a paid secretary and advised that it had a membership of almost 700 individuals in 1935. The New York Society was accustomed to bear the expenses of publication of a book on Japan, usually written by a Japanese, approximately once in every three years. It solicited the other Japan b7c

Societies and Oriental departments of universities throughout the United States to purchase copies of these books. The New York Society was the model upon which the Seattle and other Japan Societies were founded, and its by-laws were reportedly the same as those of the subject organization.

At Chicago, Illinois

b7c The Japan-American Society, Inc. of Chicago was founded on a non-specified date sometime in the 1920's. Its president was an attorney, [REDACTED] Chicago, in 1935. It stated that its aims were the same as those of the subject organization, and it was interested in international affiliation.

At New Orleans, Louisiana

The Japan Society of New Orleans was founded in 1929, and its president was [REDACTED] who resided at [REDACTED] New Orleans, Louisiana. It was interested in international affiliation and described itself as having approximately the same by-laws as the subject organization.

At San Francisco, California

b7c The Japan Society of San Francisco was founded in 1905, was incorporated under the laws of the state of California, and its headquarters were the Fairmount Hotel, San Francisco. Its executive secretary (paid) was a [REDACTED] Its president in 1935 was [REDACTED] One of its directors was a [REDACTED].

At Portland, Oregon

b7c The Nippon Society of Portland was organized in 1928 at the instigation of officers of subject organization at Seattle. Its first president was a [REDACTED] Portland. Its meeting place was the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and its president in 1935 was [REDACTED].

At Vancouver, B. C.

The Japan Society of Vancouver was formed in 1928 at the instigation of the officers of the subject organization. Its offices were located at A-106, The Marine Building, Vancouver, and its president was [REDACTED] while [REDACTED] as its secretary.

At London, England

b7c The Japan Society of London, England was formed in 1892 and its secretary in 1935 was [REDACTED]. The organization's address was 22 Russell Square, London, W.C.1. It will be noted that [REDACTED] in replying to [REDACTED] letters in 1935 stated that his organization was interested in international affiliation, and further advised that it was supported principally by financial gifts from visiting Japanese dignitaries in London.

At Tokyo, Japan

The American and Japan Society of Tokyo was incorporated under the laws of Japan in 1917. There was no correspondence from this organization reflecting its precise address or its office. However, records of the Executive Committee's meeting of the subject organization for April 14, 1939 reflect that the Tokyo Society made an offer to all of the Japan Societies to visit Japan in January 1940 and to participate in the celebration of the 2600th anniversary of the founding of the Japanese Empire. The Tokyo Society further offered to pay all expenses of three representatives from each of the Societies in the United States and members of the families on a tour of approximately three months duration in Japan and Manchukuo. The Seattle Society accepted this invitation but had not designated the members who should represent it when the Tokyo Society cancelled its invitation on November 10, 1939.

It will be noted that with the exception of the Boston Society, mentioned above, all of the other Japan Societies indicated that their by-laws and the purpose of their organization was identical to that of the subject organization. It was further noted that the Societies at San Francisco, Portland, New York, Chicago, Vancouver and Tokyo were employing in 1935 full-time paid secretaries. It was also noted that membership in San Francisco was more expensive than membership in Seattle, a life membership being valued at \$500 and budget memberships were offered whereby an individual member might contribute as much as \$120 a year to the Society as a charitable gift. The Portland Society's membership rules approximated those of the Seattle Society with the exception of the fact that a life membership was valued at \$250.

History of the Japan Society of Seattle

b7c The following brief summary of the history of the Japan Society was obtained from the writer's perusal of the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings and general membership meetings which it has been noted before are in the custody of [REDACTED] of the Pacific First National Bank.

b7c

The Honorable HIROIS

[REDACTED]

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b7c [REDACTED] HOLDEN at that time was affiliated with the advertising business in Seattle and was a prominent member of the Seattle Advertising Club. [REDACTED]

Subsequently on August 9, 1923, the organization was put on a permanent basis and a charter was obtained. Consul SAITO almost at once departed for New York where he became Consul General. It will be here noted that the latter stages in his career SAITO became ambassador to Great Britain and finally ambassador to the United States from Japan. While in this position he died, and his ashes were escorted to Tokyo by the United States cruiser Astoria.

The Society immediately following his departure from Seattle elected him an honorary life member, and it will be noted here that every Japanese ambassador to the United States, every American ambassador to Japan and every departing Japanese consul from Seattle, as well as every manager of a Japanese company who had any length of membership in the Society was elected an honorary life member, but the membership records of the organization do not reflect their membership.

b7c The first officers elected were president, [REDACTED] first vice president, the Japanese consul; second vice president, [REDACTED] third vice president, [REDACTED] fourth vice president, [REDACTED] secretary, ASHLEY E. HOLDEN; treasurer, [REDACTED] trustees, [REDACTED] It was decided at this first meeting that the consul of Japan should ex officio always be the first vice president of the organization, and this resolution was always followed.

b7c The Society then established a commercial library, and an index of those books has been received and is on file in the Seattle Field Division. It will be noted here that most of these books concern social, economic and cultural, as well as commercial conditions in Japan, and by far the largest percentage of them, though in English, were printed in Tokyo. It will also be noted that most of these books were gifts of the Japanese consul. When the organization suspended its activities in March 1942 this library was given to the University of Washington for use and safekeeping for the duration. A review of the titles fails to reflect that the books contained subversive matter, although [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] now admit that, probably they contained very subtle propaganda through the

absence of declaratory propaganda.

It will be noted here that in its infancy the Society was not sufficiently strong in membership or in funds to carry out its purposes. Accordingly, it received an offer from the Thursday Club to use its headquarters in the Stuart Building, Seattle, its secretary and its telephone for the purposes of the Japan Society. Throughout the history of the Society it received financial aid and cooperation from the Thursday Club.

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It will be noted here that extensive investigation has been conducted of the Thursday Club by the Seattle Field Division and also by [REDACTED]. This investigation reflects that the Thursday Club was an organization of Japanese treaty merchants meeting together with the consul of Japan for luncheon on each Thursday to discuss current events at home and business conditions in Seattle. Despite the use of all types of investigation, there has been no evidence of subversive activity by the Thursday Club.

The Executive Committee of the Society for the first two years met weekly, and its minutes reflect that the Society usually discussed business affairs affecting the individuals present, receptions for visiting Japanese dignitaries and contributions to Japanese disasters, such as the earthquake at Yokohama in 1923 and the hurricane in Tokyo in 1927.

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In December 1923 the Society employed a paid assistant secretary, [REDACTED] at \$100 per month. The Society sent congratulations to the present Emperor of Japan when he was Prince Regent on the occasion of his wedding January 26, 1924. On February 5, 1924 it decided in a non-public manner to oppose the Exclusion Act of 1924 and to solicit other Japan Societies to do likewise. In this connection its records reflect that it so advised then Secretary of State HUGHES, and it will be noted that [REDACTED].

On March 4, 1924 the Society was approached by the Japan Tourist Bureau, an official government agency of Japan, to act as an agent in Seattle. The Society appointed a committee to consider this step, and final action taken thereon was to notify the travel agencies in Seattle generally, such as steamship companies, hotels, etc., that if there were any questions which the latter were unable to answer concerning travel conditions, outlines of tours or expenses in Japan, it would be glad to handle the same and to obtain the information if it did not already possess it through the Japanese consul. The organization continued to do this work throughout its existence, although its records do not reflect that there was much activity in this line outside of the years 1929 to 1933 when

ASHLEY HOLDEN was an active paid secretary.

Later in 1924 the Society protested to the Labor Department the manner in which the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service at Seattle treated Japanese aliens. It also solicited the Seattle Japanese Chamber of Commerce to oppose the Exclusion Act. Later in this same period its individual members campaigned for citizens of Seattle to write their congressmen and oppose this act. In furtherance of this same program, the Society bore the expense of printing political propaganda opposing the act. On June 17, 1924 the Society voted to publish a monthly bulletin for the edification of its members, which bulletin should contain a summary of current events, topics and person items concerning the membership of the Society.

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At the October 21 meeting in 1924 the Society's Executive Committee under [redacted] direction considered the anti-Japanese propaganda then being published in the Seattle Star by [redacted]. It was decided to quietly approach the members of the Society who were advertisers in the newspaper and assert pressure for the exclusion of [redacted] articles. Moreover, when this latter move failed, the then publisher of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer were invited to luncheon and ultimately were induced to join the organization, and thus the aid of this paper was secured fighting anti-Japanese stories.

The Society voted to financially support the Oriental Survey being conducted by [redacted] which was made under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation for International Peace.

On May 4, 1925 the Society secured for its membership, which generally had been receiving nothing but contacts, their first issues of the "Asahigraph", a monthly pictorial published by the Japanese newspaper "Asahi". This was secured at a reduced rate of \$2 through the influence of the Japanese consul, and either it or a similar pictorial was furnished to the members throughout the remaining active existence of the Society.

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At this time also, at the request of Japanese Consul [redacted] the Society appointed a committee to assist the consul in handling difficult problems affecting Japanese aliens who were residents of the state of Washington. The members of this committee were [redacted] an internee and subject of Seattle file 100-1481, and [redacted] subject of Seattle file 100-1898, who has been referred to above.

The Society sponsored a Japanese play which resulted in a deficit in 1925. On October 19, 1925 the Society formally objected to articles appearing in the Seattle Times entitled "The Race War in the Pacific".

On November 2, 1925 ASHLEY HOLDEN, the secretary of the organization, was made correspondent for an international English periodical published in Tokyo entitled "Japan".

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In 1929 the Society began operations which led to its peak, according to its records. It had adopted a budget which called for expenditure of approximately \$10,000 a year and employed ASHLEY E. HOLDEN, subject of Seattle file 100-10186, as a full time secretary at a salary of \$3600 per year. Subsequently HOLDEN's salary was raised to \$375 per month. The Society took a new suite of offices at 811 Skinner Building, Seattle, and employed a part-time secretary to assist HOLDEN at a salary of \$100 a month. This part-time secretary was [REDACTED] the latter person being subject of Seattle file 100-2006. Further reference is also made to HOLDEN in the case entitled [REDACTED] Internal Security - J, Registration Act", Seattle origin.

The budget of the Society called for an expenditure of between \$1000 and \$2000 for luncheons which would be the occasion of entertaining visiting Japanese dignitaries and students. The printing costs of publications issued by the Society rose to \$1000. Under HOLDEN's direction as executive secretary the Society became very active. It entertained Japanese naval officers, Japanese statesmen passing through Seattle, Japanese scientists, lecturers, authors, dancers and officials of government agencies of Japan. On each occasion a formal luncheon or dinner would be arranged whereby citizens prominent in Seattle life would make speeches of welcome and visiting Japanese and the Japanese consul would respond. The most outstanding occasions of this nature were the dinner welcoming visiting Ambassador DEBUCHI and the Japanese delegation en route to the London Arms Reduction Conference in 1929.

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HOLDEN actively worked from 1929 to 1934 for a revision of immigration laws to admit Japanese on a quota basis. In this work he was assisted by [REDACTED] of San Francisco, whose precise address is not known. HOLDEN further wrote articles for the Seattle papers concerning conditions in Japan, corresponded with the Institute for Pacific Relations and traveled throughout the west coast and to Washington, D. C. as an active paid lobbyist for membership, Japanese-American trade and cultural relations. He made great efforts to have Representative ALBERT JOHNSON of Washington introduce in Congress bills favorable to Japanese trade and immigration but he met with negative results. HOLDEN spoke before Chambers of Commerce and international associations, and at times his expense account would equal his salary per month.

In 1931 HOLDEN made a trip to Japan of three months duration and traveled over 5000 miles, according to his own report, through Japan and Manchuria. He was entertained by the Japanese premier, Baron WAKATSUKI,

and Foreign Minister Baron SHIDEHARA, in addition to other Japanese public officials and members of the Diet. Upon returning he spoke for almost ninety consecutive nights at various places on the west coast. He stated that the Japanese-Chinese situation at that time was very intense "with the Japanese restraining themselves under the most trying circumstances". He stated that there would be no war but that it would be necessary for the Japanese to take "punitive protective measures".

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At the end of this trip, however, when HOLDEN returned to balance the books of the Society for the first time in its existence, it enjoyed a deficit of almost \$600. The Executive Committee met and discussed ways and means to cure this deficit, and finally on October 31, 1932 HOLDEN suddenly resigned. The cause of his resignation does not appear in the records, but [REDACTED] advised the writer privately that HOLDEN's work had been unauthorized by the Society in most instances, and that he had drawn money from the Society's funds to pay his expenses to Japan and back, and that the Society had dismissed him. It was the contention of the above two men that HOLDEN had far exceeded his authority, particularly as regarded unauthorized expenditures of Society funds. It was the opinion of these two men further that HOLDEN had tried to build himself into an international figure through the medium of this Society.

In 1932 the records reflect that in order to aid the Society the Thursday Club was contributing \$100 per month to its financial support. The Society was at this time beginning to receive voluminous literature from the Department of Foreign Affairs at Tokyo concerning the Manchurian incident. It distributed this to such of its members as evidenced an interest.

Throughout the 1930's the Society annually entertained the visiting Japanese naval squadrons and visiting students from Japan. The January 14, 1935 minutes reflect that the Society invited then president of the China Club to a meeting at which the China incident was to be discussed, but voted confidentially not to permit him to speak.

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In September 1935 the organization formed the ladies' auxiliary which had the same general purposes as the Society and became a separate part of the Society, and which was composed primarily of white women teachers and their pupils from the University of Washington. Its officers in 1941-1942 were [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Seattle Field Division has a complete copy of the membership list of the auxiliary in its files. The auxiliary's cash is included in the funds of the Society, and its personal property, gifts of the Japanese government consisting of tea sets, tapestries and dolls, were stored in the home of the Japanese

consul. The officers are presently trying to obtain these items to give them to the University of Washington.

The auxiliary met five times per year to conduct the following:

- (1) A flower show
- (2) A boys festival
- (3) A girls festival
- (4) An art exhibit
- (5) A social meeting

All of these meetings took the form of teas and were usually held at the Hotel Edmond Meany in the University District, Seattle, Washington.

In 1935 Prince IYESATO TOKUGAWA, a member of the American Japan Society of Tokyo, appeared in Seattle and made a speech concerning international relations. The Society voted to distribute at its expense a thousand copies of the Prince's speech throughout the Seattle area, but not one of these was to be found in the records of the organization.

b7c In 1939 [redacted] began to supply the Society with entertainment, decorations and propaganda from the Kokusai Bunka Shin-kokai (The Society for International Relations at Tokyo, Japan.) On October 18, 1940 [redacted] advised the Society that [redacted], referred to above, was one of the three men from the United States invited to attend the 2600th anniversary celebration at Tokyo at the expense of the Imperial family. [redacted] stated that this was a signal honor and had been conferred upon only 27 individuals in the entire world. At the suggestion of [redacted] the Society drafted a two-page resolution congratulating the Imperial family and the Empire which was tendered to [redacted] for delivery at Tokyo. [redacted] activities are too well covered in the report referred to above concerning him to be recited here.

b7c The officers elected for 1941 were [redacted]. In October 1941 the Society, being in good financial condition, voted to purchase a \$500 U. S. defense bond but not to publicize its purchase. No reason was given for the latter instructions in its records, but according to interviews conducted later it appeared that the white members were fearful less such purchase offend the Japanese members of the organization.

On December 8, 1941 the Executive Committee had an emergency meeting at the Hotel Rainier, at which time it was decided to accept the resignations of all Japanese alien members. Such resignations had not

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previously been tendered according to the records. The officers resigned, and a committee consisting of [REDACTED] was appointed to dispose of the Society's property and place its records in custody. Accordingly, the personal property of the Society was sold, and the funds combined with the amount of money in the treasury permitted the purchase of U. S. war bonds totaling \$3000. These bonds were placed in a blocked account under the direction of the Federal Reserve Bank. They are to be so held until the end of the war when it will be the duty of the life members of the Society to properly distribute the assets unless the organization is re-formed.

[REDACTED] were all interviewed and stated that they had formed the club and had been members of it purely to protect and foster their business interests with Japanese clients. Any further information they provided was only repetitious of that set forth above.

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[REDACTED] pointed out that he is the son of confidential informant [REDACTED] and that he had offered to explain to [REDACTED] the entire history of the Society many times prior to December 8, 1941.

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[REDACTED] stated that he had been advised at the New Washington Hotel, Washington, D. C. on December 4, 1941 that war between the United States and Japan was imminent. He stated he had received this information from [REDACTED] who had just returned from the Japanese Embassy and who had further declared he was returning by plane to Seattle to be interned. [REDACTED] declared that this was the only information concerning subversive activity that had ever come to his attention, and that he had not divulged it to anyone prior to his interview with reporting agent June 22, 1942 because he had at all times believed that the U. S. State Department was well aware of the situation and was well prepared for war.

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[REDACTED] stated that he felt he had been "sucked in" but that it had been good business at the time. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He further declared that most of the criticism of the Japan Society had originated with [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED] had been a [REDACTED] for many years. He stated that if [REDACTED] had been anxious to assist the United States he was in a position to secure much information concerning the Sumitomo Bank and Japanese finance, but to his knowledge [REDACTED] had never made any efforts in that direction and was apparently well satisfied with the account.

It will be further noted that aside from the activities of the Society set forth above, it did a considerable amount of charity work

such as sponsoring scholarships for students at the University of Washington's Far Eastern Department and the placing of beds in children's hospitals.

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[redacted] was contacted for information concerning this organization, but stated that although [redacted] had volunteered to furnish information it had not felt the Society warranted investigation or a file.

Confidential informants [redacted] and [redacted] were interviewed and stated that the leaders of the Japan Society among the white group were men of outstanding character and reputation in the community. These informants characterized [redacted] as being Seattle's leading citizens, and not only in their professions but also in civic enterprise. It will be noted that all of these men have their biography contained in the 1942 issue of "Who's Who".

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[redacted] Confidential informant [redacted] stated that he had been a member of the Society for many years at its expense inasmuch as the Society was desirous of obtaining some social publicity in [redacted] newspaper on the occasion of their annual banquet. [redacted] stated that the men referred to above and the white leaders of the Japan Society generally were interested in the Society first because of its business associations with Japanese clients, and second because they apparently enjoyed the social contact with the Japanese and occasionally the American diplomatic corps.

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[redacted] Confidential informant [redacted] Japanese consulate, declared that various Japanese consuls whom he had known had stated to him privately that they had never used the Society for espionage but that it had been useful in an "innocently nice" sort of way for the distribution of subtle propaganda. Consul [redacted] whom the Seattle Field Division references reflect was probably the most active Japanese consul in espionage and propaganda work, once stated to [redacted] that he was very fortunate to have such a large group of prominent "fish" who were willing to aid him in receiving Japanese dignitaries and helping him to put on a front for the consulate.

- CLOSED -

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

Confidential informants mentioned in this report are as follows:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is Assistant United States Attorney GERALD HILE, Seattle, Washington.

[REDACTED] is Assistant United States Attorney GERALD SHUCKLIN, Seattle, Washington.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

97-1344

July 14, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
Seattle, Washington

Re: *✓* ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
PERJURY

Dear Sir:

It is desired that you immediately acknowledge
the Bureau's letters of May 28th and June 26, 1942.

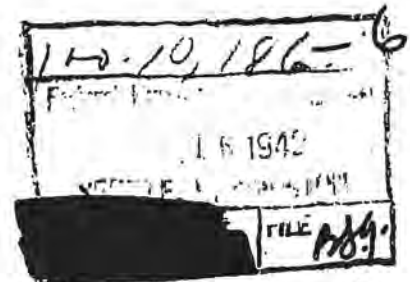
Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/12/98 BY SP2ALM/JG
Log #99-9



b7c



Seattle, Washington
August 1, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

RE: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
Internal Security - J
Perjury

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter of July 14, 1942 in the above captioned matter which requests that the Seattle Field Division immediately acknowledge the Bureau's letters of May 28 and June 26, 1942.

The Bureau is referred to letter from the Seattle office to the Bureau dated July 6, 1942, which responds to the aforementioned letters. A report is being submitted on this individual.

Very truly yours,

H. B. FLETCHER
Special Agent in Charge

BSG:MB

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/12/98 BY SP2ALM/JG
Log # 99-9

100-10186-7

Spokane Contractor Spikes Union Smear

SPOKANE, Wash. — (AP) — An anti-union story in The Spokesman-Review which tried to cause hatred for unions among soldiers was exploded by the contractor at the Geiger field construction job in a letter to the paper.

The byline story by Ashley E. Holden, purported to show that union rules prohibit A. F. of L. building trades workers from working more than 40 hours a week and that the 40-hour week was hindering construction.

Written in a descriptive, sentimental style, the story quoted soldiers as making such remarks as:

"Men are coming in here every day and no place to put them, willing and eager to work without limit for their country, while these workmen lay down their tools at the end of 40 hours."

LIE IS SPIKED

The contractor in his letter to the paper described the article as "untrue, and unwarranted" and attributed the delay in construction to scarcity of materials.

"Labor in this area has always been willing to work whatever hours the job requires," the contractor said. "Our contracts and all contracts with the government provide for continuous operation if required to complete within the time allotted, but shortage of materials has prevented us from this kind of operation."

During the last two or three

months most materials have become increasingly difficult to secure and of late it has become almost impossible to secure nails in sufficient quantity to keep a large crew at work. Priority rating is very necessary and at Geiger Field our priority is AIE.

"This is not high enough to get us quick delivery on all materials, and on two occasions during the short life of the Geiger Field contract we have come very close to being entirely out of nails and some of the other materials. Lumber (even here in Spokane) seems to be scarce as hen's teeth, and many sizes are now short."

Mrs. Roosevelt Hits Dies Tactics

NEW YORK — (AP) — The tactics of the Dies Committee in smearing individuals and organizations without giving them a hearing was attacked by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt June 25 in a two-day column.

NEW
7/9/42
1389

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b7c

100-10186
Federal Bureau of Investigation
JUL 17 1942
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
FILE 1389

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Seattle, Washington

FILE NO.

100-10186

REPORT MADE AT Seattle, Washington	DATE WHEN MADE 8-9-42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/14 - 5/28/37 6/12 - 6/29/39 7/17, 30/42	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] MB
TITLE ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN			CHARACTER OF CASE Internal Security - J Perjury b7c

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject is political editor of *Spokane-Review*, Spokane, Washington, daily newspaper, and was impeached by the government while testifying for the defense in the case entitled **[REDACTED]** Registration Act - Internal Security (J), Seattle origin. **[REDACTED]** declares subject stated to him a firm dislike of the U. S. Department of Justice including the FBI. **[REDACTED]** and **[REDACTED]** advised the subject has long been a stormy figure in Washington politics and newspaper circles. Records of Japan Society of Seattle reflect the subject was active as secretary from 1923 to 1932 and during that time made one trip to Japan. The records further reflect that the subject while secretary of the Society made many pro-Japanese statements.

P.

REFERENCE: Letter to Bureau dated August 1, 1942 (Bureau file 97-1344)

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5-Bureau 1-ONI Seattle 2-42 Seattle 4-Seattle (1-109-3890) <i>[Handwritten initials]</i>		100-10186-9	ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <u>11/12/98</u> BY <u>SP8ALM/JS</u> Log # 99-9
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DETAILS:

At Seattle, Washington

Investigation in instant case is predicated upon the following set of circumstances:

The subject is and has been for approximately the last five years the political editor of the Spokane, Washington "Spokanean-Daily Star" which is published daily and which enjoys a circulation throughout eastern Washington. On January 12, 1942, the subject was interviewed by Special Agent [redacted] concerning what knowledge he might have of lobbying activities of [redacted] subject of Seattle file #100-2166, in an Internal Security - J, Registration act case. At that time the subject of instant case advised Special Agent [redacted] that he had known [redacted] for a number of years and that [redacted] had approached him at Olympia, Washington, during the last session of the Washington State Legislature. [redacted] had requested ROLIN to secure copies of a proposed bill which was to regulate beauty parlors and under the regulations proposed would exclude foreigners from this form of enterprise. ROLIN advised Special Agent [redacted] that [redacted] had told him of his desire to secure a copy of this bill for the Japanese consular in Seattle; that, [redacted] had indicated to him that he was representing the Japanese consular under some sort of financial arrangement.

In view of the above information, ROLIN was subpoenaed by the U. S. Marshals Service at Seattle for a representative interview in the [redacted] hotel and on May 14, 1942, (the day before the trial began) ROLIN was interviewed at the office of the U. S. Attorney at Seattle by Assistant U. S. Attorney GEORGE B. RICE and the writer. At that time ROLIN declared that he did not know who [redacted] was representing at Olympia, Washington, although he was well aware that [redacted] was representing some political party. ROLIN was specifically asked by the writer if [redacted] represented either the Japanese consular at Seattle or the Seattle Japanese Association and his reply was in the negative to both questions. He further stated he knew [redacted] was representing someone because there was no one else [redacted] being in Olympia on personal business, and usually, because [redacted] was securing additional copies of the bills and that the writer seeing [redacted] more than one individual would personally see. In view of these statements Assistant U. S. Attorney RICE caused ROLIN to answer pertinent questions in the trial.

Approximately three hours after the above interview [redacted] Confidential Informant [redacted] telephonically advised the writer

[redacted] that [redacted] was an Internal Security - J, Government. The subject advised [redacted] that [redacted] was a friend of [redacted] Consulting ROLIN

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declared that as a result of his convictions he had voluntarily gone to the office of the defense counsel after having been interviewed by the Department of Justice in order to offer his services to the defense. He [redacted] whereupon HOLDEN referred to the Department of Justice generally, and included specifically the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as a " bunch of sons of --- ". Subsequently [redacted] testified in behalf of the government in the [redacted] trial and following his testimony HOLDEN [redacted] that his testimony had been accurate. HOLDEN stated [redacted] that he had been well aware of [redacted] lobbying activities for the Japanese consulate before the Washington state legislature at Olympia but that "all hell would freeze over before he would so testify in behalf of the Justice Department."

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On May 8, 1942, HOLDEN appeared at the trial as a witness for the defendant. On direct examination HOLDEN under oath stated the following facts: That he had known the defendant for many years; that he had been well acquainted with the defendant when the latter was in Olympia, Washington, apparently doing a little lobbying; that he, HOLDEN, had asked the defendant [redacted] when the latter was lobbying for and had been advised that [redacted] was representing the Seattle Japanese Association; that he had asked [redacted] if he represented the Japanese consul and that [redacted] had denied such representation; that HOLDEN was one of the founders of the Japan Society of Seattle and had been its paid secretary for three years; that he had been presented gifts in cash by the Japanese consul on numerous occasions and as late as 1941 he received a gift of \$50 from the Japanese consul at Christmas time. On cross examination, which was conducted by Assistant U. S. Attorney ALLEN POMEROY, HOLDEN corrected the \$50 gift in point of time to have been presented at Christmas time 1940; further, that he had been known as "Samuel Holden" in a political campaign in Seattle in 1934; that "Samuel" was a Japanese word which might be translated "long live the Emperor"; that he had made a trip to Japan in 1931 at the expense of the Japanese Society of Seattle, among others; that he had published an English language periodical with a Japanese outlook entitled "Oriental Outlook" in 1932 or 1933; that he had employed the defendant [redacted] as his secretary when he was employed as executive secretary of the Japan Society of Seattle; that he had been interviewed by Special Agent [redacted] at Spokane, Washington, on January 10, 1942, but denied affirmatively and vehemently that he had ever informed Agent [redacted] that he thought [redacted] represented the Japanese consul. At a later point in the trial it was necessary to introduce Agent [redacted] as a result of the latter's testimony HOLDEN was impeached. It will be noted at this point that during a recess of the trial defense counsel TRACEY GRIFFIN admitted to the writer and Assistant U. S. Attorney RILE that he had never thought of calling HOLDEN as a witness and was unaware that HOLDEN had any connection with the case until the latter voluntarily appeared at GRIFFIN'S office and volunteered his services on May 4, 1942.

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In connection with the case entitled "The Japan Society of Seattle, et al," Seattle file #100-3890, the writer reviewed the records of this organization. These records reflected that the subject HULDEN was present at the first organizational meeting of the Japan Society called on May 3, 1923 by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HULDEN was elected temporary secretary at that meeting and it will be noted the purpose of the Society was "to promote friendly relations between the United States and Japan and to diffuse among the American people a more accurate knowledge of the people of Japan." On July 24, 1923, the organization was permanently formed and the subject was elected secretary, which position he maintained until November 14, 1932. At the time of his initial election, however, HULDEN was not a paid official.

The minutes of this organization were reviewed by the writer and the following information concerning HULDEN is set forth as taken from these minutes:

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On December 3, 1923, HULDEN secured the appointment of [REDACTED] as an assistant secretary to him at a salary of \$100 per month. In 1924 the Society began in a quiet fashion, through its influence and financial support of its few members, to oppose the Exclusion Act contained in the Immigration Act of 1924. In connection with this work HULDEN as secretary contacted senators and representatives from the western states urging that they vote against the passage of this Act which would stop Japanese immigration.

On February 10, 1925, the Society was requested by the Japanese Travel Bureau to act as an agency. The Japanese Travel Bureau was an official agency of the Japanese government. The Society appointed a committee of two, Mr. [REDACTED] and HULDEN, to handle the situation. Ultimately, the Society did not agree to act as an agent but did notify all local travel Bureaus and hotels that in the event people were desirous of securing information regarding Japanese traveling conditions the Society would be glad to answer their questions or secure official answers for them. It appears from the records that HULDEN handled most of this work although the records do not reflect there was any great amount of it.

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On April 7, 1925, the Society appointed a committee to welcome, entertain, and show the local sights to visiting Japanese dignitaries. The Society appointed HULDEN and the then Consul [REDACTED] as a committee of two to handle this work. It will be noted that thereafter the Society made a custom of meeting all of the visiting Japanese army and naval officers, governmental officials, scientists, and students, and after showing them through Seattle's industrial plants, public edifices and other points of interest, these visitors would be welcomed formally at a luncheon, dinner or banquet. HULDEN was very prominent and active on these occasions. The first one of these was on May 4, 1925, when HULDEN welcomed [REDACTED] Commissioner of Livestock for the Imperial Japanese government and toured him through the various livestock farms and rendering plants in the state of Washington.

On November 2, 1925, HOLDEN was appointed correspondent of the magazine "Japan", an English periodical published by the N.Y.K. Line and the Japanese Tourist Bureau in the interest of soliciting American vacationists to tour Japan. It will be noted here the Society subscribed to that magazine as a body for a considerable length of time and secured a reduced rate through the Japanese consul.

On December 13, 1926, when the Society appointed another "welcoming committee" HOLDEN was re-appointed along with the Japanese consul.

On September 12, 1927, HOLDEN took two Japanese mining engineers, whose names were not disclosed in the records of the Society, on a tour of the mines and industries of that type in the state of Washington.

b7c
On October 8, 1928, the Society moved to the offices then held by HOLDEN personally in the Lloyd Building, Seattle, and three weeks later, HOLDEN as a representative of the Seattle Japan Society went to Portland, Oregon, to confer with [REDACTED] of Reed College for the purpose of establishing a Nippon Society of Portland. At a later date this Society was formed and it will be noted that HOLDEN was also active in forming the Japan Society of Vancouver, B.C.

At a meeting held on March 25, 1929, HOLDEN strongly urged the Society to foster tours to Japan by American citizens for the purpose of creating better relations between the two countries.

On April 15, 1929, HOLDEN was appointed a paid and permanent secretary of the organization at a salary of \$3600 a year. He was allotted a budget totaling \$1900 to spend on advertising, printing, telephone and such other incidentals as he thought necessary but excluding rent.

b7c
On October 7, 1929, [REDACTED] employed [REDACTED] to assist him at a salary of \$75.00 per month. Two years later [REDACTED] became [REDACTED], the latter person being mentioned above.

On January 20, 1930, HOLDEN at a meeting stated that he had solicited the most prominent people in the states of Washington and Oregon to urge that congressmen enact a revision of the Immigration Act of 1924 so as to permit quota immigration of Japanese aliens. HOLDEN, according to the minutes, spoke at length on this subject and was instructed by the other members of the executive board to secure the aid of Japanese associations throughout the nation and Chambers of Commerce to enact such a change in the immigration laws.

On March 22, 1930, HOLDEN's salary was raised to \$350 per month and was allotted a further amount of \$35.00 for expenses. In 1930 as executive secretary HOLDEN expended a budget of over \$7100 in furtherance of the Society's work.

67C

On April 21, 1930 HOLDEN and one [redacted] of the Society arranged to have the Seattle chapter of Commerce and the Institution of Pacific Relations investigate action in the revision of the Immigration Law as set forth above. HOLDEN personally contacted then Representative ALBERT JOHNSON of Washington to introduce the measure in Congress and was congratulated by the Society. At a later date, however, JOHNSON regretted his promise and failed to introduce the measure. Also at this time HOLDEN was active as a member of the committee which entertained visiting Japanese Ambassador UEMURA.

On November 30, 1930, HOLDEN published a pamphlet on Japan according to the minutes of the Society; however, there were no copies of the pamphlet in the records of the organization, although the minutes reflect that the Society had purchased and distributed fifty of them.

Also during the month of November 1930 the minutes reflected that HOLDEN actively campaigned at the Tacoma Chapter of Commerce, Seattle Chapter of Commerce and Washington State American Legion headquarters to fight for congressional enactment permitting entrance of Japanese. HOLDEN reported to the executive committee that he thought he could secure the aid of the American Legion as a national body under the theory that Japan was the only civilized country in the Orient and the only country in the Orient opposed to communism.

On June 1, 1931, HOLDEN moved that the Society attempt to establish courses in Japanese language and culture at the Seattle Public School System. At that time also he secured a leave of absence from his post for the purpose of touring Japan.

On September 22, 1931, HOLDEN reported to the Society that he had made a trip of three months to Japan and had travelled over 3000 miles in that country and in Manchuria. He stated he had been entertained by the then Premier KATO KAKUMEI and then Foreign Minister RIKIN SHIRAKAWA. HOLDEN further reported that he had been entertained by other prominent public officials including members of the Japanese Diet. He stated Japan's business was very good and that less than 1% of the Japanese were unemployed. Reporting on the Manchurian situation, which was then beginning to reach a peak, HOLDEN held, "the situation is very tense with the Japanese restricting themselves under the most trying circumstances, both in Manchuria and in Japan Japanese with whom I talked expressed

"greeting legislators with China's deliberate attempts to antagonize Japan through boycott and innumerable petty incidents designed to compel the Japanese to evacuate Manchuria." KOLDS expressed the opinion there would be no war between Japan and China but that "it might be necessary for the Japanese to take punitive-provocative measures. He further stated that the Japanese were very desirous of having passed an immigration quota to the United States and that the Immigration Act of 1924 still rendered the ordinary Japanese man on the street. At a later date on November 2, 1931, KOLDEN advised the committee that he had made over 20 speeches advocating more than 2500 people on the Japanese situation and that his book was filled with lecture dates up to and including December 14, 1931.

On January 18, 1932, the Japan Society raised KOLDEN'S salary to \$375 a month with an additional \$25 for expenses; however, shortly thereafter the Society found it was in poor financial condition and after studying the books and reviewing the budget KOLDEN'S remuneration was accepted on October 11, 1932. It will be noted here that at the HANEDA trial referred to above KOLDEN stated the Japan Society had financed part of his trip to Japan.

When the writer interviewed Messrs. [redacted] and [redacted] all of whom were long affiliated and prominent in the Society, these individuals advised privately that their best recollection was that the Society had authorized a gift of \$50 to KOLDEN in connection with this trip to Japan; however, a larger sum of the books discussed that KOLDEN had taken a considerable larger amount of money [redacted] being of the opinion it was about \$600) and that as a result of this [redacted] in view of the social character of the organization and other individual factors, this maintenance was never made known to the Society generally and the records do not reflect any such action. It will only be noted the records do reflect that KOLDEN'S expenses in some months in the year 1931 exceeded his salary.

571

On November 14, 1932, KOLDEN appeared at a meeting of the Society [redacted] and advised that he was going to San Francisco to publish his "Oriental Outlook" however, on September 18, 1933, KOLDEN had evidently returned to Seattle because he appeared at an executive board meeting on that date to discuss the problem of gaining the assistance of Japanese aliens to the United States. KOLDEN advised the Society and the officers agreed that an organization it would not carry on with such an individual with one would was the full extent of his influence to gain the admission of Japanese aliens to the United States.

On October 30, 1933, at a meeting of the executive committee (when incidentally it was decided not to sign the N.H.A. agreement) HOLDEN appeared to advise the Society he had placed all of the Chambers of Commerce in the state of Washington on its mailing list.

Further background information concerning HOLDEN obtained from Seattle confidential informants is set forth below:

b2
b7D
[redacted] advised that HOLDEN had been a prominent member of the American First Committee having been its organizational manager and principal speaker in Eastern Washington. [redacted] further stated that HOLDEN had a reputation among the newspaper fraternity in the state of Washington as being a rabid Republican, a Roosevelt hater, and a "Japanese lover."

b2
b7D
[redacted] advised he had known HOLDEN for a number of years in news circles in the city of Seattle and in Olympia, Washington, and HOLDEN had always been a "stormy figure wherever he went." He too stated that in 1937 HOLDEN had been involved in a row at Olympia, Washington, during a session of the legislature when HOLDEN physically attacked a representative of the Teamsters' Union, AFL, Seattle. [redacted] stated in his opinion HOLDEN was a loyal American but a very much misguided one. [redacted] related on almost every issue that had been of public prominence in the last ten years, HOLDEN had been on the losing side. [redacted] stated that he himself was a Republican but that HOLDEN was biased Republican; that nothing was done by the federal government while it was under the Democratic administration that would meet with his approval.

b2
b7D
[redacted] stated that he had known HOLDEN for a very long time and that HOLDEN had been employed prior to his affiliation with the Japan Society for a period of ten years as secretary to the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. During this time [redacted] related HOLDEN had proved to be a conscientious, reliable employee and had been very zealous in his work. [redacted] concluded by stating that he knew that the subject had a great affection for the Japanese people up until December 7, 1941 but believed that since that date he like every other American was anxious to see the Japanese defeated. It will be noted, however, that [redacted] has not seen the subject since December 7, 1941.

b2
b7D
[redacted] advised that he had known HOLDEN for a number of years and that he considered him a loyal American although he was also of the opinion that subject was warped and his mind blinded by a fanatical partisanship in behalf of the Republican party. [redacted] related that the subject was so biased a Republican that if "God were on the Democratic ticket and Satan on the Republican ticket God would lose HOLDEN'S vote." [redacted] further stated in the past HOLDEN had been extremely Pro-Japanese but that he did not believe HOLDEN to be foolish enough to express those opinions now or to perform any acts in behalf of the Japanese government.

The Washington New Dealer, a newspaper published by the Washington Commonwealth Federation, in its July 9, 1942, issue carried a story attacking HOLDEN for an article appearing in the "Spokesman-Review." This article, according to the New Dealer "tried to cause hatred for unions among soldiers." According to the New Dealer, HOLDEN had made false charges regarding the unwillingness of union tradesmen to work overtime in order to provide housing facilities for soldiers and defense personnel in the Spokane area. It will be noted HOLDEN is presently residing in Spokane, Washington.

PENDING

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

SEATTLE FIELD OFFICE

At Spokane, Washington, will conduct further investigation into the activities of subject in instant case with a view toward ascertaining sufficient facts to warrant the writing of a custodial detention report on this subject or developing any evidence of a violation of the registration act by this subject in connection with Japanese activities.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

b2
b7D

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and who has
previously been of assistance to the Seattle Field Division
[REDACTED]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

97-1344
100-55982

August 11, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
Seattle, Washington

Re: Ashley Elder Holden
Perjury

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated July 6, 1942, concerning the above mentioned subject, wherein you indicated that you did not desire to use [REDACTED] as a witness in any possible proceedings against Holden for perjury.

b7c
If admissible evidence can be obtained which would support a successful suit against this subject, it would seem most desirable to press prosecution against one who deliberately gives false testimony in a Federal Court. It is noted that the letter of reference does not indicate that the matter [REDACTED] testifying in such a trial and his future usefulness to your office as an informant has actually been discussed with him. In view of his close contact with Agents of your office, there seems to be no reason why this matter should not be frankly discussed with [REDACTED] and his opinion obtained in the matter.

It is therefore desired that you consider discussing this matter with [REDACTED] and that the entire situation be given further consideration by you. In the event that it is still your opinion that the use of [REDACTED] as a witness would be unwise, an effort should be made to determine if any other witnesses are available to testify to substantially the same information.

The Bureau should, of course, be immediately advised in the premises.

Very truly yours,



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Log# 99-9

John Edgar Hoover
Director

100-141942

SEATTLE WASHINGTON

b7c

Seattle, Washington
August 21, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

RE: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
Perjury
(Bureau files 97-1344, 100-55982)

Dear Sir:

b7c
Reference is made to Bureau letter dated August 11, 1942, requesting that [redacted] be contacted with reference to the captioned subject. Further reference is made to Bureau letter dated August 13, 1942, (58-634) instructing that [redacted] is not to be contacted as a confidential national defense informant pending completion of investigation in a case in which he is involved as a subject. In view of the second letter the suggestions and instructions in Bureau letter of August 11, 1942, are being disregarded.

b7c
In connection with HOLDEN, it has been brought to the attention of this office by [redacted] that [redacted] has forwarded newspaper clippings on the [redacted] case to all the Senators and Representatives to Congress from the state of Washington, to the Dies Committee, Office of Naval Intelligence, State Department, and to the Immigration Service, as well as to the Attorney General's office. [redacted] has advised this office that he particularly pointed out in a cover letter what he considered to be the apparent treachery of ASHLEY HOLDEN. [redacted] only reported this matter to the Seattle Field Division on August 18, 1942, at which time he also stated that he had received replies from three Congressmen and the Dies Committee requesting further information regarding HOLDEN'S activities. [redacted] is presently attempting to secure permission of the Attorney General to obtain copies of the official court reporter's record of HOLDEN'S testimony and also that of Special Agent [redacted]. If he is successful he intends to publish this testimony and also to forward it to the interested Congressmen. In this connection, [redacted] mentioned in passing that he had also forwarded clippings and had addressed several strong letters to the managing editor of the Spokesman-Review, HOLDEN'S employer, requesting HOLDEN'S immediate dismissal.

b7c
Special Agent [redacted] of this office has been advised by Assistant U. S. Attorney GERALD HILK, Seattle, that a copy of this transcript was furnished Senator HOMER T. BONE of the state of Washington,

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100-10186-11

Director

-2-

8-21-42

at the latter's request and at that request U. S. Attorney J. CHARLES DENNIS and Mr. HILL reviewed the testimony and came to the conclusion that because of technical defects in the impeaching question HOLDEN could not be prosecuted for perjury on that matter.

b7c The Seattle Field Division is continuing the investigation initiated in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated August 3, 1942, at Seattle, Washington, and will submit another report in the near future.

b7c Further reference to [REDACTED] can be found in the reports entitled "The Japan Society of Seattle, et al," Seattle origin, by Special Agent [REDACTED] of this office. It will be further noted that [REDACTED] has addressed a considerable number of letters to the Bureau during the past three years.

Very truly yours,

H. B. FLETCHER
Special Agent in Charge

BSG:MB
100-10186

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

97-1344

August 20, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
Seattle, Washington

Re: ~~ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN~~
INTERNAL SECURITY - J
PERJURY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] dated August 3, 1942, at Seattle, Washington.

It is desired that in the future investigation conducted
in this matter an effort be made to develop additional evidence
concerning the false testimony of the subject during the trial
of [REDACTED]. This matter should be given continuous attention in
order that it may be brought to a logical conclusion at an early
date.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

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Log# 99-9

100-10,186-12
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 23 1942
SEATTLE WASHINGTON
FILED [REDACTED]

b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
September 25, 1942

97-1344

Special Agent in Charge
Seattle, Washington

RE: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
PERJURY

Dear Sir:

The Bureau desires that it be advised as to
the exact status of this case at the present time.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

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120-10,186-13	
Federal Bureau of Investigation	
SEP 28 1942	
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	
FILED	728

b7c

Seattle, Washington
October 2, 1942.

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
PERJURY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter in the above entitled case dated September 25, 1942, (97-1344) requesting to be advised as to the exact status of this case at the present time.

The Bureau is informed that this case is assigned to an Agent for investigative attention and a report will be submitted in the very near future.

Very truly yours,

H. B. FLETCHER
Special Agent in Charge

BSG:MB
100-10186

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Log# 99-9

100-10186-14

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SEATTLE, WASHINGTON**

FILE NO. **100-10186**

REPORT MADE AT Seattle, Washington	DATE WHEN MADE 11/1/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/21/42 10/29/42	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
TITLE <p style="text-align: center;">ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN</p>			CHARACTER OF CASE <p style="text-align: center;">PERJURY</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 25%;"> SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: </div> <div style="width: 75%;"> <p>USA advises no possible prosecution on perjury violation in view of technical difficulties in impeaching question.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- C -</p> <p>REFERENCE: Bureau file 97-1344. Bureau letters dated 8/11 and 8/20/42. Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] 8/3/42, Seattle.</p> <p>DETAILS: The writer contacted Assistant United States Attorney GERALD HILE, who advised that the transcript of the subject's testimony in the trial of [REDACTED] referred to in the reference report, had been reviewed by himself and by the United States Attorney, J. CHARLES DENNIS. A review of this transcript reflects that in the impeaching question asked of the subject at the [REDACTED] trial the words "beauty parlor" were used whereas in Special Agent [REDACTED]'s testimony, the words "beer parlor" were used. Mr. DENNIS was of the opinion that this difference caused a technical defect in the impeaching question which rendered a perjury prosecution impossible.</p> <p>In view of the above declination of prosecution, no further investigation is being conducted. The lead set forth in the reference report at Spokane, Washington will not be covered.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- C L O S E D -</p> </div> </div>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT <p>5 Bureau 1 USA, Seattle 1 Seattle <i>[initials]</i></p>		<div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">100-10186-15</div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;"> ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <u>11/12/98</u> BY <u>SP2ALM/JG</u> Log# 99-9 </div>	

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-285



97-1344

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

Date: October 31, 1942

To: SAC, Seattle

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
PERJURY

It is desired that you advise the Bureau the exact date a report may be expected in connection with this case.

*crossed in
mail*

FOR DEFENSE



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100-10186-16
Federal Bureau of Investigation
NOV 3 - 1942
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
FILE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

97-1344

Date: November 17, 1942

To: SAC, Seattle

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
PERJURY

In your letter of October 2, 1942, you advised that this case is assigned and a report would be submitted in the very near future.

To date this report has not been received and I should like to be furnished the exact date such a report may be expected.



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100-10,186-17	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
NOV 20 1942	
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	
FILE	

Seattle, Washington
November 23, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
PERJURY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated November 17, 1942, Bureau file 97-1344, in the above entitled matter.

A closing report was submitted in this case as of November 1, 1942, and in the event Bureau copies cannot be located, proper copies will be furnished.

Very truly yours,

H. B. FLETCHER
Special Agent in Charge

HBf:blh
100-10186

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100-10186-18

ALBI SUES 'PIC'

SPOKANE, Jan. 1.—(AP) Joseph A. Albi, president of the Athletic Round Table, Spokane's fun-making club, and Ashley Holden, political writer for the Spokesman-Review, filed libel suits in superior court today asking a total of \$500,000 from Street and Smith Publications, Inc., over an article appearing in Pic Magazine.

The two suits, echoes of the "Bundles for Congress" campaign

which the Round Table initiated when congress voted to bring its members under the civil service retirement act, cite an article which appeared in Pic Magazine December 22 under the caption, "They Plotted 'Bundles for Congress'."

Albi and Holden list among allegedly libelous utterances those which referred to Albi as an "un-American citizen" and Holden as "a pal of the Japanese."

Seattle P-S
1-2-43
M.G.

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100-10186-19	
Federal Bureau of Investigation	
JAN 2 - 1943	
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	
FILE	M.G.

Second Class
Seattle P. O.

— 5 Cents —

Friend of Japan Wants To Pick House Speaker



Ashley Holden, Spokane political writer, who is seeking to name the speaker of the state house of representatives, is the subject of an expose in the Dec. 22nd issue of "P" magazine. The article relates Holden's long time activities as a publicity man on behalf of Japanese interests.

WIN. NEW DEALER
12/24/42
1287

100-10186-9

Federal Bureau of Investigation

JAN 2 - 1943

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

FILE

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LOG#99-9

b7c

Spokesman Review
Jan. 1, 1943

2 Spokans From Magazine

Joseph Albi and Ashley E. Holden Allege They Were Defamed by Article.

Suits against Pic magazine, totaling \$500,000, were filed in the superior court of Spokane county yesterday by Joseph A. Albi, president of the Spokane Athletic Round Table and Ashley E. Holden, political writer of The Spokesman-Review.

This echo of the "Bundles for Congress" movement which swept the nation last spring is the result of an article published in the December 22 issue of Pic magazine, in which Albi and Holden were charged with having plotted "Bundles for Congress" in an attempt to "smear" that body. In a display of pictures Albi was branded as an "un-American citizen," while Holden was characterized as a "pal of the Japanese."

The article further insinuated that "Their previous affiliations are all the more interesting by reason of their authorship of this campaign of vilification," and mention is made of Albi's appointment as acting consular agent for the Italian government in 1929 and Holden's former membership in an American commercial organization known as the Japan society, which he helped to organize 20 years ago.

Article "False, Defamatory."

Branding the article, which was given the title of "America List" in the index of the magazine, as "false, libelous and defamatory, with an utter disregard for truth, decency and verity," both Albi and Holden filed complaints with County Clerk Frank Nash, in which each seeks to recover damages of \$250,000, together with costs.

F. J. McKevitt of the legal firm of Cannon, McKevitt, Fraser and Stephen F. Chadwick of Seattle, past national commander of the American Legion, joined in bringing the legal action in behalf of Albi, while Holden is represented by Lester P. Edge of the law firm of Edge, Keith and Dender.

Street & Smith Sued.

Both complaints name the firm of Street & Smith Publications Inc., publishers of Pic, the American News Company, and Hawkeye, managers of the Spokane division, as defendants in the case. "The complaint speaks for itself without any amplification," Attorney Edge declared. "The statements complained of in the publication are in my judgment such as no honest men deserve and no courageous men would permit to go unchallenged."

In his complaint Albi brings out the fact that the Athletic Round Table has a membership of approximately 1000, composed of prominent business and professional men in Spokane and throughout the nation, and that he has been its president continuously for the last 22 years.

Round Table History Told.

He mentioned the fun-loving nature of the organization and its various activities, such as the "coaches' moan contest," the "fire-cracker golf tournament" and the "summer Christmas parties," which have attracted national attention. Attention also is called to the Round Table's patriotic activities and the fact that since it was organized it has contributed approximately \$250,000 to patriotic, athletic and benevolent causes, as well as investing large sums in United States War Bonds.

In Holden's complaint he maintained that the publicity in connection with "Bundles for Congress" attracted instant attention and favor throughout the nation and that the movement initiated by the Athletic Round Table was heralded far and wide as a public and patriotic service, that letters of commendation poured in to the Round Table and to The Spokesman-Review, lauding them for their interest in the movement and from its beginning as a "humorous gag" the movement developed into a nation-wide crusade arousing public attention and indignation to such an extent that Congress repealed the pension and monument, the senate voting 75-25 for its repeal on February 23, 1942.

(Continued on page 2)

100-19186-21
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 4 1943

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

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2 SPOKANE MEN SUE OVER STORY

(Continued from page one.)

and the house voting 389 to 7 for its repeal on February 24, 1942.

Holden's complaint also declares that he had no part in the instigation of "Bundles for Congress" by the Athletic Round Table, and that not until after the appearance of the initial story of the stunt was he assigned to write articles covering its growth and expansion.

In Albi's complaint it is recited that in November, weeks previous to the appearance of the magazine, Hawksley, one of the defendants, advised certain members of the Athletic Round Table that Pic would publish an article, the contents of which would result in a large sale of the magazine because of the wide acquaintanceship of the plaintiff.

"The members of the Athletic Round Table protested to the said defendant against the publication of such an article," Albi's complaint reads, "stating to him and to the other defendants that if such an article were published the contents of the same, as outlined to said members by the said defendant Hawksley, would constitute libel and would result in unjustly damaging the good reputation of this plaintiff."

Mussolini Drawn In.

The article emphasized the appointment in 1929 of Albi as acting consular agent for the Italian government. "Serving in the capacity mentioned, Albi thus became and remained the personal representative of Benito Mussolini until July 15, 1941," it was declared.

"The fact of the matter is that plaintiff's appointment as acting consular agent of Italy at Spokane, Wash., for the state of Idaho and the eastern counties of Washington, was officially recognized by the President of the United States of America, over the seal of Henry L. Stimson, then secretary of state," Albi declared in his complaint. "In such official capacity he served without remuneration."

Albi also contends that prior to the order of the President of the United States ordering the closing of all Italian consulates, he had resigned his appointment and that such resignation was given newspaper publicity. He also calls attention to an attempt by the publishers of Pic magazine to black out the letters "un" before the word "American," in certain copies, but that many copies were sold unexpurgated.

Holden's complaint mentions that in 1923, 20 years ago, he was chosen secretary of the Japan Society of Seattle, an American organization of prominent bankers, shipping men and capitalists, organized to improve business and commercial connections and to promote trade between the United States and Japan.

Seattle Leaders in Society.

He listed among the organizers of the Japan Society the late Judge Thomas Burke, J. D. Lowman, Seattle pioneer, and other outstanding citizens of that city. He has not been a member of the organization since 1931, his complaint alleges, at which time the Japan Society included in its list of officers such prominent Seattle citizens as K. J. Middleton, manager of the Blue Funnel Steamship line; H. B. Earling, railroad vice president; A. F. Haines of the American Mail line; E. W. Brownell, banker; A. S. Eldridge, automobile distributor; Dr. Herbert H. Gowen, university professor; Reginald H. Parsons, capitalist; J. W. Spangler, banker; David Whitcomb, building owner, and others.

Both plaintiffs are veterans of the first World war. Albi was a commissioned officer in the army air corps, while Holden served in the 13th infantry. At present Albi is commander of the civil air patrol in Spokane and a charter member of Spokane post No. 9 of the American Legion. Holden, also a Legionnaire, has a minor son who enlisted in the army of the United States.

Albi was born in Spokane and has practiced law here since 1916 when he was admitted to the bar. Holden was born in Missouri, but has lived in the state of Washington 41 years, seven of which have been in Spokane.

Charge Statement False.

Both Albi and Holden denounced as false and defamatory the statement in Pic in which it was said that "The long-time official agent of Benito Mussolini and the long-time friend of Japan must chuckle to themselves as they contemplate

their cleverness in enlisting a considerable part of the press of the country in their campaign. Some good may come out of it since we now know how our domestic experts in smear technique set about to discredit a parliamentary body."

Contending that this and other statements in the Pic article have defamed them, tending to discredit them before the public and to hold them up to public disgrace and scorn, untruthfully conveying the impression that they are in alliance with the Japanese and Italian governments, and that they are hindering and besmirching congress in its efforts to carry on the war, the plaintiffs each have asked for damages of \$250,000.

b7c
Summary of the "Gridiron Banquet" Press Club, Spokane, Washington by [REDACTED], Fort George Wright, Washington.

The Inland Empire Press Club, with clubrooms in the Spokane Hotel Building, W. 517 First Ave., Spokane, Wash., put on a so-called "Gridiron" on November 2, 1942, which featured several stunts villifying the President and Mrs. Roosevelt. A number of commissioned officers from Fort George Wright, Geiger Field, The Spokane Air Depot and other Bases and Posts were present, as well as several commissioned officers of the United States Navy.

The language used was foul and obscene, and a great deal of unfavorable comment has been heard about this show, especially since the magazine "Pic", December 22, 1942, published by Street & Smith Publications, New York, N. Y., printed an article (see pp. 14-15) featuring Ashley Holden and Joseph Albi. Holden took a prominent part in the Press Club "Gridiron", which served to emphasize the "Pic" article which accused Holden and Albi of "plotting" against Congress.

Holden formerly was prominently identified with Japanese interests, and at present is employed as a writer by the Spokesman-Review. Albi, American-born, and leader of a play organization, "The Knights of the Athletic Round Table", is a practicing attorney and was appointed Acting Consular Agent of the Italian Government on November 11, 1924, serving as such until Italian Consular offices were closed by Presidential order July 15, 1941. Friends of Holden and Albi state that they expect them to sue the magazine.

The fact remains that the Inland Empire Press Club "Gridiron" not only was in exceedingly bad taste, but that in addition it unquestionably attacked the integrity and motives of the Commander-in Chief of the United States Armed Forces.

Holden file

b7c [REDACTED]

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100-10186-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 7 1943
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
FILE

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request.

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. The subject of your request is listed in the title only.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

97-1344

Date: January 6, 1943

To: SAC, Seattle

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN; PERJURY

Reference is made to the closing report of Special Agent [redacted] Seattle, dated November 1, 1942, in the above captioned matter.

b7c
It is noted that the reason given by the office of the United States Attorney for declining prosecution in the instant matter was the fact that the impeaching question asked of the subject at the [redacted] trial used the words "beauty parlor," whereas the words "beer parlor" were used in Special Agent [redacted] testimony. Although the exact wording of the questions asked the subject and Agent [redacted] is not known to the Bureau, it would not appear that the so-called defect is of such materiality as to be a valid basis of declining prosecution.

b7c
It was undoubtedly understood by both the subject and [redacted] that the questions put to each referred to the proposed bill to regulate "beauty parlors," inasmuch as a review of the file fails to show any mention of legislation regarding "beer parlors." It is suggested that there may have been an error made by the court reporter in preparing the transcription and that his original shorthand notes may show that the words "beauty parlor" were actually used in Agent [redacted] testimony. This possibility should be examined by discussing the matter with the court reporter who took the testimony.

b7c
It is believed, further, that the transcript of the subject's full testimony at the [redacted] trial should be carefully reviewed to discover whether there are not questions other than the so-called defective question which would form the basis for a Perjury prosecution. You are instructed to conduct the above investigation and to re-discuss the case with the United States Attorney if the investigation is productive. In view of the fact that Holden's testimony at the [redacted] trial appears to have been false and susceptible to proof as such, every effort should be made to bring this case to a successful prosecution.

You should, of course, keep the Bureau currently advised in this matter.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
100-10,186-24	
JAN 12 1943	
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	
FILE	[initials]

Seattle, Washington
January 19, 1943

Director
FBI

Dear Sir:

Re: ASHLEY ELDER HOLDEN
PERJURY
(Bureau file 97-1344)

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated January 6, 1943, on the above entitled case.

The transcript of the subject's testimony in the [REDACTED] case as well as the testimony of Special Agent [REDACTED] has been reviewed again by United States Attorney J. CHARLES DENNIS and Assistant United States Attorney GERALD HILE. The same decision has been reached, that there was a fatal defect in the impeaching question. A recheck of the words "beauty parlor" and "beer parlors" has been made with Special Agent [REDACTED] and the court reporter and both advise that the court reporter's transcript was accurate. b7c

Reference is made to the Seattle letter to Bureau dated August 21, 1942, and it is noted again that the United States Attorney's office at Seattle has exhibited a definite interest in this case.

Other possible prosecution, according to Mr. DENNIS, would be based solely upon the testimony [REDACTED]. Mr. DENNIS stated that it was not advisable to enter prosecution with but one witness. Inasmuch as [REDACTED] is a subject in the case entitled [REDACTED] et al; Bribery" (Bureau file 58-634), this matter was not pursued further. In that case the Bureau has previously advised the Seattle Field Division not to again contact [REDACTED]. b7

The Bureau's attention is invited to the following recent information on HOLDEN. In the December 22, 1942, issue of "Pic" Magazine an article of two pages was devoted to HOLDEN and his activities in this case. HOLDEN has begun a \$500,000.00 libel suit against the publishers. The Washington New Dealer, a local Communist front organ, has also made an attack on HOLDEN following the "Pic" topic [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] on HOLDEN based largely upon the information appearing in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] at Seattle dated August 3, 1942, in the instant case. In view of Mr. DENNIS' decision, this case is again being closed. b7c

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BSG:BE
100-10186

Very truly yours,

H. B. FLETCHER
SAC

100-10186-25

referred
to
mother
agency

Look Who Wants To Gag This Newspaper

AN examination of the \$35,000 so-called libel action filed against the New World by Ashley Holden, former secretary of the Seattle Japan Society, reveals that this newspaper and the free non-commercial, progressive press is confronted with a fight for its very life.

Holden, who admits our charge that he worked to promote trade and commerce with Japan while the military fascists of that country were plotting the treachery at Pearl Harbor, has not filed an ordinary libel action.

His suit asks the court to appoint a receiver for this newspaper, take it over and kill it.

Our attorneys advise that such a request is unprecedented in legal history. Reaction, it appears, has found a new method to fight the progressive press.

Although there is absolutely no precedent for such a request, attorneys also advise us that there is nothing to prevent a superior court judge from appointing a temporary receiver, turning over the newspaper to him, without giving us a chance to appear in court.

It will be recalled that four years ago a judge, also acting without precedent, made the arbitrary ruling that we were "not a newspaper" and it was necessary for us to fight the case to the state supreme court where we won a unanimous verdict.

If Holden and his friends are successful in silencing the New World by this method, then every labor and progressive newspaper and publication is in jeopardy.

We are going to fight this flagrant attempt at applying the gag to publications supporting our President's war program through every court in the land.

It is going to take a lot of money. We are confident that the necessary sum, which may run as high as \$10,000, will be forthcoming from the millions who want a free press and are willing to fight for it.

This week 27 members of the state legislature, a number of trade union and Pension Union leaders, businessmen and others started the organization of the Washington Free Press Defense Committee. Plans are also afoot to form a national committee as the threat is not confined only to our state.

Even before a solicitation of funds the Downtown Tacoma Pension Union sent in \$50 to defend the New World against this latest, and most serious, attack. A worker in the Lake Washington Shipyard came into the office Monday and emptied his bill-fold—\$35—with the request that the dollars be used to defend the paper.

THE NEW WORLD
SEATTLE, WN.
3/10/43
1943

100-10186-26
Federal Bureau of Investigation
MAR 25 1943
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
FILE

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Every organization and individual is now being given the opportunity and the invitation to make whatever contribution they can to the Defense Fund.

What responsible people think of the divisive, anti-democratic and reactionary activities of Holden was illustrated during the last days of the legislative session when a motion to ban him from the press table was supported by 35 members of the House.

Rep. Don Underwood of King, who introduced the resolution, charged that Holden in newspaper articles had insulted that body. The articles were certainly designed to destroy the faith of the people in their democratic institutions. Even Goebbels could not pen a more poisonous tirade against free legislatures than Holden's vituperative screeds regularly published in the Spokane Spokesman-Review under his by-line.

At the same time, Holden was denounced on the floor of the senate by Senators M. T. Neal of King and Gerald Dixon of Tacoma.

This is not the first time the legislature has been moved to protest against the unscrupulous activities of Holden. A similar move to oust him from the press table was made in the 1939 session.

It was also in this session that a resolution asking for an embargo against the shipment of scrap iron and oil to Japan

(as traffic in death which Holden admits he once promoted) died in committee in both the House and Senate.

It is also revealing that Rep. Roy J. Kinnear could not defend Holden's articles. Rep. Kinnear opposed the resolution of ouster on the grounds that it was too severe. But even Rep. Kinnear said Holden owed the legislature an apology.

Rep. Kinnear also paid this newspaper a compliment by calling us "the most scurrilous newspaper in the state" because it had exposed Holden's activities in the Seattle Japan Society. Rep. Kinnear said these activities were "participated in by the best people of the state."

Let Rep. Kinnear and other apologists remember that these activities were to "promote trade and commerce with Japan."

This newspaper has no apologies for remembering what that trade and commerce did at Pearl Harbor.

Holden replied to the indignation of the legislature by a red-baiting attack on his critics.

This man, who claims we have ruined his future career as a commentator, uses the red-baiting tactics of Hitler with the same enthusiasm he once showed for the program of Hirohito and Tojo.

No wonder he wants the New World silenced.

Newsdealer Makes Reply to Holden

(Continued from page 1)

believes, on information and belief, alleges the facts to be:

1—That Ashley Holden has during the many years of his life, and been acquainted with persons and friendships with persons who are in sympathy with the countries now at war with the U. S. and with persons who are in sympathy with American ideals, forms of government and its democratic institutions.

2—That at various times plaintiff has been on intimate terms with Japanese consuls, has worked for the benefit of the Japanese in the legislature of Washington.

3—Holden has "when he learned of matters or events that might be injurious to Japan or the Japanese warned them therefor."

4—That Holden has "received money and gifts for such services, work and favors from Japanese or the Consuls in Japan."

5—Published or assisted in the publication of a periodical called "Japan Society Bulletin" or Seattle, which was done for the benefit of Japan and the Japanese.

6—Published in San Francisco with the assistance of plaintiff a magazine called "The Outlook," both of which periodicals were propaganda media for the benefit of Japan and the Japanese to deceive the people of the U. S. into thinking they are just and do business with them.

7—That Holden was for years the secretary of the Seattle Japan Society which was at all times a propaganda medium for the benefit of Japan and the Japanese which likewise deceived the U. S. citizens into joining it on the false representation that it was organized and maintained for the benefit of the U. S.

8—That plaintiff Holden was given a trip to Japan from the U. S. as guest of said Society by the Japanese Consul and Japanese in return for work and favors done them.

9—That plaintiff (Holden) was at various times been paid money and gifts by such persons and Japanese consuls.

10—Referring to the trial of Thomas Shimao Masuda, Seattle American-born Japanese charged with being an unregistered agent for Japan, the plaintiff (Holden) advised the U. S. that said Japanese had been engaged in such work for Japan.

11—That the agent thereof that as a result plaintiff (Holden) was subpoenaed as a government witness and his expenses paid to Seattle to testify as he had informed the government, but did thereupon testify on behalf of the said Japanese who was acquitted. That it is a fact that at said time, and for years before, plaintiff (Holden) was and had been an intimate friend of said Japanese and his wife, both of whom worked with plaintiff in the Japan Society.

12—That plaintiff (Holden) has been in friendly relations with the Japanese that he has been known as and called "Banzai" Holden in Seattle, that the term "Banzai" is used by the Japanese as a greeting of love, loyalty and friendship to persons to whom they show love or loyalty or friendship.

Attacked Roosevelt

It is further alleged that the defendants charge that Holden has been a political writer of newspaper articles in that said articles has been notoriously and fully biased, untruthful and prejudiced against public officers and judges and candidates for public office, and who refused to meet with his approval, and that he has likewise humiliated himself since the U. S. declared war against Japan, Germany and Italy, violently unpatriotic and in an un-American manner against the President of the U. S. and commander-in-chief of our armed forces.

It is further alleged that Holden publicly stated that he has more respect for Hitler than for President Roosevelt.

Seattle, Washington
June 2, 1943

AIR MAIL

Director, FBI

Re: [REDACTED] b7C

Internal Security - C
Custodial Detention;
ASHLEY HOLDEN
Internal Security - J.

Dear Sir:

b2
b7D
The following information was furnished a Special Agent of this office by Confidential National Defense Informant [REDACTED] whose identity is known to the Bureau:

b2
b7C
b7D
On June 1, 1943, [REDACTED] met with [REDACTED]. All three of these persons are subjects of Custodial Detention - C cases, Seattle origin, and it is noted that [REDACTED] are on the Seattle Field Division "Key Figure" list. In the course of a mutual conversation, [REDACTED] developed the following information.

b7C
On Monday, June 7, 1943, [REDACTED] will entrain for Washington, D.C., and Boston, Massachusetts. At [REDACTED] will attend the National Convention of the [REDACTED] unit. At Washington, D.C., [REDACTED] will call on the Congressional delegation from the state of Washington (both representatives and senators) to make inquiry of them concerning ASHLEY HOLDEN. [REDACTED] will speak as representative of the Free Press Committee, a group [REDACTED] in the defense of the New World (a Communist publication) in the libel suit brought against it by HOLDEN. [REDACTED] will endeavor to have the Washington Congressional group ascertain through the Justice Department whether HOLDEN has been investigated for subversive activities. In the event he has been investigated, the group is to obtain such statements as possible in writing, as to why he has not been prosecuted. In the event that he has not been investigated, the Washington Congressional delegation will be instructed to exercise its influence to prompt an investigation, and again a statement in writing is being sought. In connection with HOLDEN's activities, the group is also of the opinion that the Japan Society of Seattle should be investigated if such action has not already been completed.

The membership of the Free Press Committee, which has [REDACTED] political color, has been set forth in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED]

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE
5/21/84 BY: SP8 BTJ/BAK

100-10186

Director

- 2 -

June 2, 1943

Re: [REDACTED], et al

b7c [REDACTED] at Seattle dated May 6, 1943, entitled "Washington Commonwealth Federation, Inc., et al; Internal Security - C." The Japan Society of Seattle and its local activities are set forth in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] at Seattle dated July 3, 1942, entitled "The Japan Society of Seattle; The Auxiliary to the Japan Society of Seattle." ASHLEY KIMBA HOLDEN is the subject of a Custodial Detention - J report written at Seattle August 3, 1942, by Special Agent [REDACTED] of the New World, is the subject of Internal Security - C reports dated August 11, 1941, and April 9, 1943, written by Special Agents [REDACTED] respectively. It is noted that [REDACTED] mentioned above, of the 15th District Committee, Communist Party.

b7c The Seattle Field Division is not conducting any specific investigation into this matter although it will continue to follow the activities of [REDACTED] as a "Key Figure" in Communist Party activities in this area. The above is furnished the Bureau for informative purposes.

Very truly yours,

BSG:BE
100-53

cc Boston (Info.)

65-1430

100-20156 Ashley Holden

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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